

THE DE LAND NEWS.

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THORNTON-ALEXANDER SCRAP WAXES HOTTER

The following letter was received by THE NEWS last Thursday. We did not publish the letter last week, but instead wrote Mr. Thornton advising him to re-write the letter, or to let the matter drop. Since the letter has been published in one of the county papers, and in explanation of the difference between Mr. Alexander and Mr. Thornton in the legislative halls on Mondaylast, we publish the letter, which follows:

Tallahassee, May 3, '09.

Editor DeLand News:

I suppose you have seen the report of the Alexander-Thornton affair in the Times-Union. I am going to concede that the reporter gave what he thought was a fair report, while I know quite to the contrary. If the bridge proposition had anything to do with leading up to this unfortunate affair, I am not aware of it.

The Alexander bridge bill, which I have had very little to say about one way or the other, except that if Mr. Alexander could give Daytona a free bridge, I would indeed be glad. I certainly would not have been so foolish as to commit myself to this absurd proposition, from a standpoint of appropriating \$25,000.00 from the State Treasury for such a purpose especially at this time in the face of the depleted condition of our treasury and high rate of taxes and in the face of a deficit of \$60,000.00 in appropriations. As a matter of fact his bill along this line has never been up for consideration before the House or given any serious thought by anyone so far as I know. No doubt Mr. Alexander would be glad to throw the responsibility for its defeat on me. This is very apparent, and would be an exceedingly damaging political trick if the people of Volusia county were not a thinking people.

But there is one thing I did object to. This bill came from the Committee on Appropriations with an unfavorable report. At the request of Mr. Alex-

ander the bill was recommitted. It came to me that he was using this line of argument with the members of the committee: "I simply want this bill to pass the House to give me a boost in Volusia County. I have already made arrangements to have it killed in the Senate." Just think of that! Now if anyone is of the opinion that I am going to violate my oath of office to boost him or anyone else in Volusia county or any other county, he is very much mistaken.

I wish to assure the people that I deeply deplore this unfortunate condition, and with the assurance of my high esteem and unerring purpose to, at all times, act for the best interests of the people I have the honor to represent, I beg to remain.

Your obedient servant,
MACON THORNTON.

THE ROW CONTINUES.

In the House on Monday Mr. Alexander rose to a point of personal privilege, and in a burst of oratory stated that he had never risen to a point of personal privilege during his long affiliation with the House, and that he would not do so now were it not for a letter written to a Volusia county paper by his colleague, Mr. Thornton, the purpose of which was to hurt him in Volusia.

When Mr. Alexander had finished his remarks, Mr. Thornton took the floor, and read a letter from Mr. Hardee of St. Lucie, which stated exactly what Mr. Thornton's letter had said in reference to giving Mr. Alexander a boost in Volusia and the killing of the bill in the Senate.

Mr. Alexander was on his feet to reply, when Mr. Light of Marion cut off discussion by a motion for regular order.

Things were getting hot, and there was no telling what might have happened had Mr. Light kept his seat.

Mr. Cox introduced a resolution suggesting and requesting the gentlemen from Volusia to bury the hatchet at least until they got home.

The resolution was ruled out of order. Mr. Alexander declared that he would answer in the State press.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES

The Senate on Thursday, by a vote of 18 to 10, indefinitely postponed the Harris reapportionment bill—this ends reapportionment for this session.

The Stokes loan-shark bill has been killed in the House.

The orange blossom has been adopted as the State Flower by the Legislature. The bill to this effect was introduced by Mr. MacWilliams of St. Augustine, and is now law.

That race-track gambling in Florida is doomed was proven pretty conclusively yesterday afternoon when the State Senate by a vote of 20 to 4, refused to indefinitely postpone the Sloan anti-race track gambling bill, and passed it from second to third reading.

May 8—(Special).—Receiving a majority of 31 to 24, but lacking the necessary three-fifths vote, the Beard constitutional amendment for the disfranchisement of the negro went down to defeat in the house Saturday.

WILL BE NO PARDON ATTORNEY. All hope of creating the office of pardon attorney was lost when the House killed the Neely bill creating that office. It was an almost unanimous vote and, therefore, decisive. This Legislature is trying to economize, and it's pretty hard to create a new job as a result. There is rather a sentiment towards cutting out a few existing jobs.

FOREST CONSERVATION MEASURE. Senator Hosford has an important measure before the Senate which would be of great importance to the state if passed. It is planned in the interests of the conservation of the forest resources of the state. The bill creates the office of state forester and gives him the control of state forest

preserves which may be created by the state under certain conditions.

The state forester will have to be a man whose ability is certified to by the United States forestry service and will be expected to give advice and aid in restocking timber areas where private parties desire such help. The measure is an important one and will receive careful consideration from the Legislature as it is a recognized fact that Florida's rich timber resources are being tapped in a wasteful manner that bodes no good for the future good of the state. Steps in the direction of intelligent conservation of the state's timber are badly needed.

TO FIGHT OUT FINANCIAL PROBLEMS.

The financial problems of the state will have to be brought out from now on and their settlement will become increasingly important as the days go by. The probe is already being used to find out how the various state departments expended the maintenance appropriations made at the last session. And there is going to be some tight trimming this time. There is a bad looking deficit and to get over it without increasing taxation to an unpleasant degree will require the exercise of most rigid economy.

Under bills suggested by Gov. Gilchrist and now before the Legislature the state will be given the right to mine and sell phosphate from the beds lying in the water belonging to the state. It is believed that this can be made an appreciable source of revenue in the course of a few years. Another bill provides that a certain amount shall come out of the convict lease fund for the maintenance of the state insane asylum.

Only 18 days more and the constitutional limit of a 60-day session will have been reached.

EAST COAST'S BIG MORTGAGE

Railway Bonds For Forty Million Dollars.

On Saturday there was recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court one of the longest and perhaps the most stupendous mortgage ever recorded in Florida. It was given by the Florida East Coast Railway, party of the first part, to Joseph C. Slater, trustee, of the city, county and State of New York, party of the second part. The mortgage recites the charter granted to the railway company and the authority to borrow money. It then mentions 7250 bonds of the value of \$1,000 each, aggregating \$7,250,000, dated Sept. 1, 1897, and held by the Colonial Trust Company; also 8741 bonds of the value of \$1,000 each, aggregating \$8,741,000, dated October 1, 1902, and also held by the Colonial Trust Company. The new mortgage and bond issue is declared to be of inferior dignity until the old bonds are cancelled and satisfied.

The paper recites the authority of the board of directors and that they deem it expedient that the company borrow forty million dollars (\$40,000,000), for the purpose of its extension to Key West, building branch lines, consolidating, leasing or purchasing other railways or railway property, as allowed by law, and for the purpose of improving, equipping, providing betterments, operating and maintaining the same, for the paying of moneys not owed by the party of the first part, and for other lawful purposes.

The bond issue of forty million dollars is in two series—Series A, for \$12,000,000, bearing 4 1/2% interest, payable semi-annually, and Series B, for \$28,000,000, bearing 5% interest, payable semi-annually.

As security for this immense amount of money there is given a trust deed or mortgage upon the entire roadbed and branches, bridges, equipment, franchises and other property used for railway purposes, including the Key West extension.

Series A is declared to be a first lien upon the property, and Series B a second lien. Sixteen million dollars are to be reserved to pay off the present bonded indebtedness.

The bonds are payable in gold, and run for fifty years from date.

Mortgage is given upon the roadway, running through Duval, St. Johns, Putnam, Volusia, Brevard, St. Lucie, Dade and Monroe counties.

The mortgage is signed by J. R. Parrott, as president of the Florida East Coast Railway Company, and attested by H. S. Jenison as secretary. It is also signed by Joseph C. Slater, as trustee, and is witnessed by A. V. S. Smith and J. P. Beckwith.

The mortgage is dated May 1, 1909, and was recorded in Volusia county on May 8.

WASHINGTON CAMP NO 15, P. O. S. of A. WINS PRIZE.

Mr. Geo. T. Self returned from Plant City last week, where he has been representing Washington Camp, No. 15, of the P. O. S. of A., at the State convention held at that place, and brought with him a fine silk flag, which was given by the State president for the camp making the greatest percentage of increase in membership in the last year.

Mr. Self also announces that the convention of the State Camp will be held in DeLand next May.

Mr. Self was elected to the office of State Master of Forms.

A. G. BENNETT.

A. G. Bennett died at his home on West New York avenue Sunday night, after a short illness. Funeral services were held Monday afternoon, and were under the direction of the local camp, P. O. S. of A., assisted by Rev. Campbell Gray of St. Barnabas Episcopal church. The body was laid to rest in Oakdale Cemetery.

Mr. Bennett, who was 41 years of age, had been a resident of DeLand since early boyhood and was greatly liked by all who knew him. A widow and three children survive him.

WATER WORKS PLANT A TOTTERING RUIN

President—M. Davis.
Finance Committee—Woodall, chm., Davis, Wilson.
Sanitary Committee—Wilson, chm., Bishop, Jackson.
Fire and Water Committee—Davis, chm., Bishop, Woodall.
Street Committee—Bishop, chm., Woodall, Jackson.
Building Committee—Jackson, chm., Bielby, Wilson.
Ordinance Committee—Bielby, chm., Davis, Wilson.

The principal matter of discussion before council at the regular meeting Monday night was the condition of the water tower. Councilman Bielby reported it in a dangerous condition—liable to fall at any minute and put the entire plant out of commission; that the lives of the engineer and firemen and the water supply of the entire town might be wiped out in ten minutes, or ten hours, or ten days; that the condition of the plant was a menace to the city. President Davis had just appointed himself as chairman of the Fire and Water Committee and was surprised to hear of the condition of the plant. He couldn't understand why the former council had allowed the plant to get in such condition.

Two plans were exhibited for a new water tower, one of steel and the other of reinforced concrete. The one of reinforced concrete will cost about \$10,000. It contemplates a concrete tank on a reinforced concrete tower, the extreme height of which is 112 feet, the capacity of the tank being 200,000 gallons, or about four times the capacity of the present tank.

The building of a new tower was discussed and the matter recommending improvements to the plant was left in the hands of the Fire and Water Committee.

Second, or perhaps first, in importance was the financial condition of the city. The treasurer's report was not available, but Councilman Davis had a memorandum scratched on a slip of paper, prepared by the former chairman of the Finance Committee, Councilman Boyd, showing the condition of finances on April 30. This memo, showed that the city had funds on hand to the amount of \$10,383.86, of which \$5,083.45 was in the general fund and the balance in the bond interest fund. There were no moneys on hand to the credit of the street, sanitary, or fire and water funds with which to meet warrants drawn at the meeting Monday night, and to meet these warrants \$2,250 had to be transferred from the general fund, leaving on hand only enough to meet the usual disbursements for one more month—and no taxes coming in for nearly a year.

When the meeting was called to order, all the members were present, viz., Z. T. Bielby, R. J. Bishop, M. Davis, W. C. Jackson, S. B. Wilson, A. H. Woodall. Councilman Davis was the only nominee for president and was unanimously elected. After the reading and approval of minutes, committees were appointed as above.

A bill of William Best, for \$97.70, for grading on West Rich avenue, was read, causing some discussion and caustic remarks. Councilmen Bishop, Davis and Woodall refused to vote for the payment of the bill for the reason that the soil taken from the streets was used to grade up Councilman Bielby's sidewalk and for other private purposes. Councilmen Bielby, Jackson and Wilson voted in favor of the payment of the bill. The motion was lost by tie vote. Best has done the work, by order of Chariman Bielby of the Street Committee, and the bill will have to be paid eventually, though the city may be able to collect the amount by suit from the private parties benefited.

Miscellaneous bills were then approved for about \$2,250.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS.
The marshal reported the collection of \$13.25 in fines and dog tax.

The engineer reported 4,601,790 gallons of water pumped during the month; taps opened, 1; closed, 12; new taps, 6.

NEW OFFICERS.
T. C. Kremer was re-elected marshal, the vote being unanimous.
N. D. Teat was unanimously re-elected superintendent of the shell mine. There were seven applicants for night watchman, viz., G. E. Berry, J. E. Yelvington, D. H. Stewart, A. A. Taylor, H. J. Byrd, S. H. Bennett and E. B. Posser. Bennett received five votes and Berry one.

The election of an engineer was postponed to the next meeting.

J. T. Cairns was re-elected building inspector.

G. A. Dreka, V. W. Gould, W. S. Taylor and Dr. G. A. Davis were re-elected members of the Board of Health.

Landis & Fish received four votes for city attorney and Grant Bly two votes.

Councilmen Woodall and Jackson were appointed a committee to revise license ordinance.

WILL REPAIR WATER TOWER.

George H. Craft, who erected the water tower in DeLand seventeen years ago, happened in town Wednesday. He inspected the tower and will make a bid on reinforcing the legs and struts; the entire work will cost less than \$1000. A meeting of council will be held in a day or two to receive bids for the work, which will probably be pushed to completion.

WOMAN'S CLUB.

The Woman's Club held their last meeting until October, on Tuesday, in the club rooms.

This was officers day and many of the club women gathered to hear the reports from the president and department chairmen. These reports showed great interest manifested, as well as work accomplished.

The president's address was something well worth printing for the benefit and interest of the club women not present, and other women in the city. Mrs. Gauden has made a most efficient president, and given much of her time to the upbuilding of the club. This address will appear in next week's issue.

In presenting the gavel to Mrs. Harkness, our new president, Mrs. Gauden made appropriate and pleasing remarks, to which Mrs. Harkness replied in a charming way. The club has chosen well in making Mrs. Harkness their president, and the good work done in the past will be ably carried on by her.

The board of directors will meet with Mrs. Harkness on Tuesday, May 18, at 3:30 p. m.

EASY TO FROST GLASS.

A French chemist has discovered a very simple and easy way to frost glass. This method is to cover a tumbler or bottle or other glass object with a thin, smooth and thoroughly-laid-on covering of glue. Either very good cabinet-makers' glue or fish glue will serve perfectly. The only care that must be taken is to see that there is no air bubbles in the glue after it has been applied, and that the coating is uniform and of even thickness over the entire article.

Glue thus applied to glass sticks to it very tightly. Then it begins to contract as it dries. Now, its tight hold on the glass prevents the layers of glue from contracting without pulling at the glass, and thus, little by little, the glue splits and splits tiny fragments from the surface of the glass.

If certain salts are added to the glue the effect is still more beautiful, because then the splitting of the tiny fragments is done in such a manner that the result forms a perfect resemblance to a frosted window pane. A glass tumbler or flask so treated becomes a beautiful ornament to the room or the glass cabinet.—Practical Druggist.